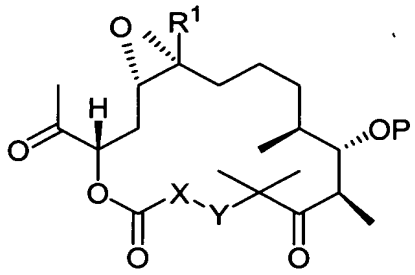
IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-5, 7-14 and 22-24 to read as follows:

1. (Amended) A compound of the formula:



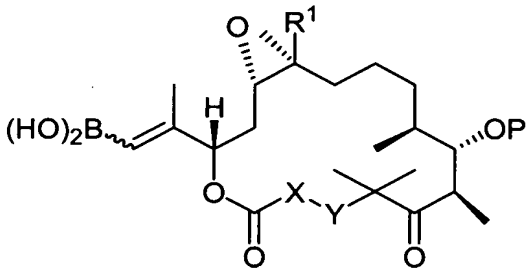
wherein

R^1 is a H atom or a C_1- to C_8-alkyl group,

X-Y is a group of the formula $-CH_2CH-OP$ or $-CH=CH-$, and

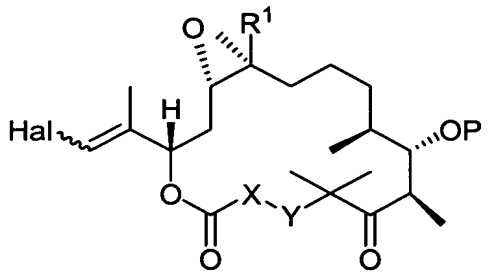
P is a protecting group.

2. (Amended) A compound of the formula:



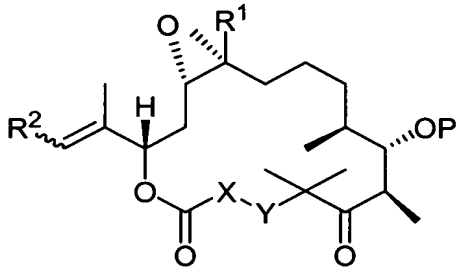
wherein the radicals are as defined in claim 1.

3. (Thrice Amended) A compound of formula:



wherein the residues R^1, X-Y and P are defined as in claim 1, and Hal is a halogen.

4. (Twice Amended) A compound of the formula:

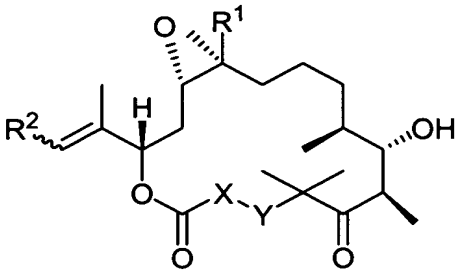


wherein the residue R^1 is a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-8}-alkyl group, and P is a protective group and X-Y is a group of formula $-CH_2CH-OP$ or CH=CH, and R^2 is a monocyclic aromatic which can be substituted by a halogen atoms and/or OR^4- and/or NR^5R^6- and/or alkyl, alkenyl and/or alkynyl groups in ortho- and/or meta- and/or para-position, or a monocyclic 5- or 6-membered hetero aromatic, which can be provided with one or several O- and/or N- and/or S-atoms in the ring and/or which can be provided with OR^4- and/or NR^5R^6- and/or alkyl, alkenyl and/or alkynyl groups as substituents, wherein the residues R^4, R^5 and R^6 independently are defined as R^1 in claim 1, but are independent of R^1, wherein

(i) XY is excluded as group of formula -CH=CH- if R^1 is a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-4}-alkyl group and R^2 is a monocyclic hetero aromatic having a N atom or a N and a S atom in its ring and a C_1-alkyl substituent and

(ii) XY is excluded as group of formula $-CH_2-CH-OP$ if R^1 is a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-4}-alkyl group and R^2 is a monocyclic hetero aromatic having a N atom or a N and a S atom in its ring and a C_1-alkyl substituent.

5. (Amended) A compound of the formula:



wherein the residues are as defined in claim 4 and, if X-Y means a group of formula -CH_2-CH-OP, the protective group P has been removed , wherein

(i) XY is excluded as group of formula -CH=CH- if R^1 is a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-4}-alkyl group and R^2 is a monocyclic hetero aromatic having a N atom and a S atom in its ring and a C_1-alkyl substituent and

(ii) XY is excluded as group of formula -CH_2-CH-OP if R^1 is a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-4}-alkyl group and R^2 is a monocyclic hetero aromatic having a N atom or a N atom and a S atom or a N atom and a O atom in its ring and a C_1-alkyl substituent.

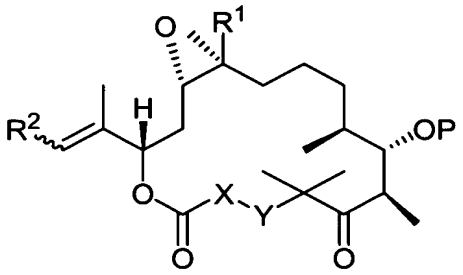
7. (Twice Amended) A compound as in claims 4, 5, 6 or 22 wherein the substituents of the monocyclic aromatic and/or hetero aromatic are C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{2-6}-alkenyl and C_{2-6}-alkynyl groups respectively, and fluoro, chloro, bromo or iodo atoms.

8. (Amended) A compound as in claims 4, 5, 6, 7 or 22 wherein the monocyclic aromatic and monocyclic hetero aromatic, respectively, is provided with 1, 2 or 3 substituents and the hetero aromatic is provided with 1, 2 or more hetero atoms.

9. (Amended) Process for the production of a compound of claim 2, characterised in that a compound of claim 1 is reacted with a compound of the formula $HC[B(OR)_2]_3$, the radicals being as defined in one of the preceding claims and R being as defined for R^1 but being independent of R^1.

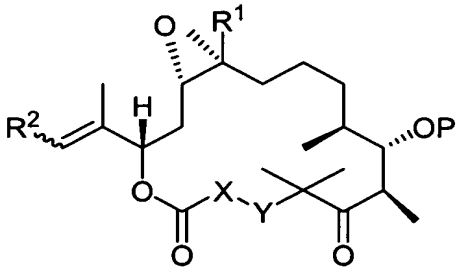
10. (Amended) Process for the production of a compound of claim 3, characterised in that a compound of claim 2 is reacted with N-iodo or N-bromo-succinimide and the radicals are as defined in one of the preceding claims.

11. (Amended) Process for the preparation of a compound of formula:



wherein a compound according to claim 2 is reacted by a Suzuki coupling with a compound of formula R^2-Z, wherein R^2 is a monocyclic aromatic which can be substituted by halogen atoms and/or OR^4 - and/or NR^5R^6- and/or alkyl, alkenyl and/or alkynyl groups in ortho and/or meta- and/or para-position, or a monocyclic 5- or 6-membered hetero aromatic, which can be provided with one or several O- and/or N- and/or S-atoms in the ring and/or which can be provided with OR^4- and/or NR^5R^6- and/or alkyl, alkenyl and/or alkynyl groups as substituents and Z can be a halogen atom or a group of formula $-OSO_2CF_3$, -CH=CHI, $-CH=CHOSO_2CF_3$.

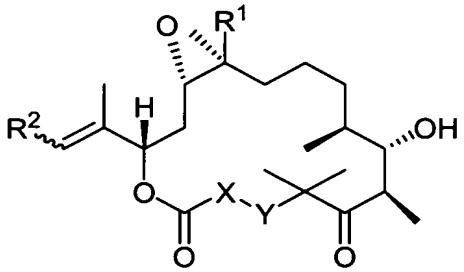
12. (Amended) Process for the preparation of a compound of formula:



wherein a compound according to claim 3 is reacted by a silent coupling (stille Kupplung) with R_2-SNR^3_3, wherein R^2 is a monocyclic aromatic which can be substituted by halogen atoms and/or OR^4- and/or NR^5R^6- and/or alkyl, alkenyl and/or alkynyl groups in ortho-

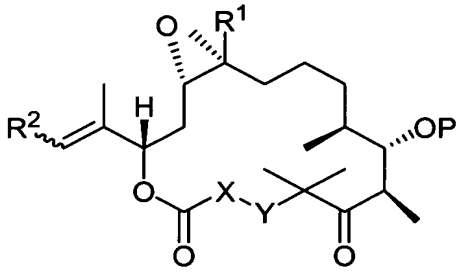
and/or meta- and/or para-position, or a monocyclic 5- or 6-membered hetero aromatic, which can be provided with one or several O- and/or N- and/or S-atoms in the ring and/or which can be provided with OR^4- and/or NR^5R^6- and/or alkyl, alkenyl and/or alkynyl groups as substituents and R^3 is a C_{1-6}-alkyl group.

13. (Twice Amended) Process for the preparation of a compound of formula:



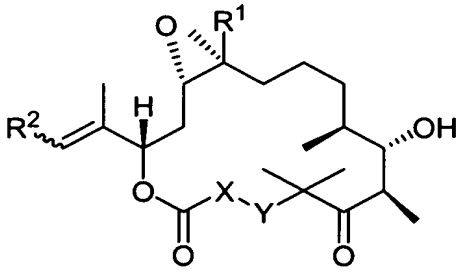
wherein the protective group is removed from a compound according to claim 4.

14. (Amended) Process for the preparation of a compound of formula:



wherein it comprises the process steps as disclosed in claims 9, 10, 11, 12 or 13.

22. (Twice Amended) A compound of formula:



wherein the residues are defined as in claim 4 and, if X-Y means a group of formula - CH_2CH-OP, the protective group P has been removed, wherein